AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 4, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22 and 23 and cancel claim 3 without prejudice, such that the status of the claims is as follows:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A transducing head comprising:

a substrate;

a writer having a writer core;

a reader;

an electrically insulating material, wherein the reader and the writer core are electrically isolated from one another by the electrically insulating material; and

an electrical connector for grounding the writer, wherein the electrical connector electrically connects the writer core to the substrate.

2. **(Original)** The transducing head of claim 1 wherein the substrate and a storage medium have substantially the same electrical potential for reducing a risk of discharge between the writer core and the storage medium.

3. **(Canceled)**

4. **(Currently Amended)** The transducing head of claim 1, ~~and further comprising a reader,~~ wherein the reader is located upon the substrate and the writer is located adjacent the reader, and wherein the electrical connector includes a resistor for electrically connecting the writer core and the substrate.

5. **(Original)** The transducing head of claim 4 wherein the resistor has a resistance between about one (1) ohm and about one (1) mega ohm.

6. **(Original)** The transducing head of claim 4 wherein the resistor is a thin film resistor.

7. **(Withdrawn)** The transducing head of claim 1, and further comprising a reader, wherein the writer is positioned upon the substrate, and the reader is positioned adjacent the writer.

8. **(Withdrawn)** The transducing head of claim 7 wherein the electrical connection is a conductive adhesive material.

9. **(Original)** The transducing head of claim 1 wherein the substrate is formed of an electrically conductive material, and wherein the substrate is electrically grounded.

10. **(Original)** The transducing head of claim 1, and further comprising a reader, wherein the writer core provides an electrical path for discharges between the writer core and a storage medium to protect the reader from damaging discharges between the reader and the storage medium.

11. **(Currently Amended)** A transducing head comprising:

~~a substrate~~ an electrical ground;

a reader positioned upon the substrate;

a writer having a writer core, the writer positioned adjacent the reader; and

a resistor electrically connected ~~to~~ between the writer core and the electrical ground for grounding the writer.

12. **(Original)** The transducing head of claim 11 wherein the resistor has a resistance between about one (1) ohm and about one (1) mega ohm.

13. **(Currently Amended)** The transducing head of claim 11 and further comprising an electrically insulating material, wherein the reader and the writer core are electrically isolated from one another by the electrically insulating material.

14. **(Currently Amended)** The transducing head of claim 11 and further comprising a substrate, wherein the substrate is formed of an electrically conductive material, and the resistor is electrically connected to the substrate, and wherein the substrate is electrically connected to the electrical ~~grounded~~ ground.

15. **(Currently Amended)** The transducing head of claim 11 and further comprising a substrate, wherein the substrate is formed of electrically insulating material.

16. **(Currently Amended)** The transducing head of claim 15, ~~and further comprising~~ wherein the electrical ground is electrically connected to ~~an electrically grounded~~ a pad, and wherein the resistor electrically connects the writer core and the pad.

17. **(Currently Amended)** A transducing head comprising:

~~a substrate~~ an electrical ground;

a writer; and

a thin film resistor electrically connected ~~to~~ between the writer and the electrical ground for grounding the writer.

18. **(Original)** The transducing head of claim 17 wherein the thin film resistor has a resistance of about one (1) ohm to about one (1) mega ohm.

19. **(Currently Amended)** The transducing head of claim 17, and further comprising a reader and a substrate, wherein the reader is positioned upon the substrate, and the writer is positioned adjacent the reader.

20. **(Currently Amended)** The transducing head of claim 17, and further comprising a reader and a substrate, wherein the writer is positioned upon the substrate, and the reader is positioned adjacent the writer.

21. **(Original)** The transducing head of claim 17 wherein the writer includes a writer core, the writer core being electrically connected to the thin film resistor.

22. **(Currently Amended)** The transducing head of claim 21, and further comprising a reader and an electrically insulating material, wherein the reader and the writer core are electrically isolated from one another by the electrically insulating material.

23. **(Currently Amended)** The transducing head of claim 17 and further comprising a substrate, wherein the substrate is formed of an electrically conductive material and the substrate is ~~electrically grounded~~ electrically connected to the electrical ground, and further wherein the thin film resistor is electrically connected to the substrate.

24. **(Withdrawn)** A transducing head comprising:

a substrate;

a writer positioned upon the substrate wherein the writer is in electrical contact with the substrate; and

a reader positioned adjacent the writer.

25. **(Withdrawn)** The transducing head of claim 24 wherein the writer further comprises a writer core, the writer core in direct physical contact with the substrate.

26. **(Withdrawn)** The transducing head of claim 24 wherein the substrate and a storage medium have substantially the same electrical potential, thereby reducing a risk of discharge between the writer core and the storage medium.

27. **(Withdrawn)** The transducing head of claim 24 wherein the writer core provides an electrical path for discharges between the writer core and a storage medium to protect the reader from damaging discharges between the reader and the storage medium.